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Hearing (September 9, 1977)

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Senator...

The Williams staff asked for a paper briefing them on the Conference, so the above serves as a briefing paper for them and for us.

However, there are some factors I would not want them to know now.

1. Brademas has been put under great pressure by the Humanities constituency, and Berman et al., and in Indiana -- to go with PARITY between the two Endowments on the funding issue. I don't believe we can expect too much help from Javits here; he is under the same pressures -- but philosophically he has always liked the arts best... I think we can truthfully say that this bill, as passed by the Senate, does not take away money from the Humanities. It provides them with a springboard for a more realistic and higher appropriation than in the past -- but it adds more for the Arts.

At present the difference is as follows:

In the basic program (Title I) the Arts get \$10 million more.

In the Arts Education program the Arts also get \$10 mil. more.

In the Photo and Film Project, the Arts get \$5^{mil.} more.

This totals \$25 million. My thought at present would be -- if necessary -- to sacrifice the \$10 mil. for Arts Education and the \$5 mil. for the Photo and Film -- BUT TO HOLD FAST ON THE BASIC DIFFERENCE OF \$10 MILLION IN THE BASIC (TITLE I) PROGRAM...

Berman will fight like a steer on this. It's reported to me that the last thing he wants is to be known as the Chairman who presided over a break in parity...

2. Museums -- Most (all except me) staffers on our side feel it would be a mistake to put the Museum program under HEW -- I can see some arguments pro and con... As we pointed out to the museums leaders, and you emphasized in your speech, the location of the new institute is not as important as the effort the museum world will put into its receptivity by the Approps. Committees... That is their task... Geo. Seybolt likes the Foundation on Arts and Humanities location because it seems more visible, but I think he can be persuaded otherwise... In sum, there are good and valid arguments on both sides... At this point I would not absolutely insist on one or the other location... Javits seems committed to the plan Greg Fusco devised (the Arts and Humanities location)... Nancy is trying hard to unconvince him -- she feels that plan would set up a very difficult troika in the Foundation, and would greatly mitigate against the work of the two Endowments with museums; she thinks the Approps. Comms. would reduce her regular museum funds... But, as noted, these arguments can be countered with others.

I RECOMMEND STAYING FAIRLY LOOSE ON THIS ONE... AND SEE IF YOU CAN PICK UP SOME BARGAINING POINTS ELSEWHERE. On the surface, you'll have to support the Javits plan.

3. State Humanities. I think we should hold fast here...
I cannot see how you can be faulted on this one -- it's a matter
of basic principle... But the House will strongly oppose, I believe.
Berman is working hard to undermine the Senate bill, even as now modified.

If we can win a victory here, and on the parity issue (even
less than at present) I think we will have achieved the results
for a successful conference.